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Patent

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:	R.T. CHERN, et al.	
Serial No.:	09/271,098	Case No.: 20023Y
Filed:	March 18, 1999	
For:	LIQUID POLYMERIC COMPOSITIONS FOR CONTROLLED RELEASE OF BIOACTIVE SUBSTANCES	

Art Unit:
1615
Examiner:
Sharareh, S.

#16K
N.E.
HKO
6-6-01

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[Signature]

The Honorable Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

**REQUEST FOR TIME EXTENSION
AND AMENDMENT**

Sir:

O/C
mp
3/5/02

Applicants respectfully request a two-month extension to May 21, 2001 of the deadline (May 19, 2001 being a Saturday) to respond to the Final Office Action mailed December 19, 2000, for the above-identified application. The fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a)(2) should be charged to Deposit Account **13-2755**. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the finality as being premature. MPEP 706.07(b) states that a final rejection on First Action is improper when the amendments that were presented in the previous final action "was denied entry because (A) new issues were raised that required further consideration and/or search." The Examiner's attention is directed to his Advisory Action of September 8, 2000 in which he stated that the proposed amendments "will not be entered because they raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search." Thus, the rejected amendments were those that were denied entry for requiring further consideration and/or search and consequently cannot be rejected as a Final First Action.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejections in light of the following amendments, which place the application in condition for allowance or in better condition for appeal, and remarks.